

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

1. (currently amended) A two-part escape mask assembly that may be supplied in a single pack, and that enables a user to breathe filtered air in the presence of contaminated air containing smoke, unidentified particles, chemical and/or biological agents or combinations of these, the two-part assembly consisting essentially of:

A. a first part which is a mask in the form of a hood flat-foldable to pocket size that when unfolded can cover the entire head, said mask consisting essentially of:

1. a single bag made of transparent plastic film material impermeable to gases,

2. a filter assembly capable of filtering contaminated air or particles disposed in a wall of the bag, and,

3. an exhalation valve disposed in the wall of the bag, and

B. a second part which is at least one separate circumferential elastic sealing and adjusting band, not connected to the bag, to adjust and seal the hood around the neck, such that the exhalation valve is opposite nose and mouth of a user, and air space within the hood is reduced to a minimum, the second part constituting the sole means for securing the first part to the user,

the single bag and the at least one separate circumferential elastic sealing and adjusting means defining within the single bag a single minimum air space between the user and the bag wall.

2. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic film material is made of a laminate of more than one plastic material.

Claims 3-5 (canceled).

6. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, which is constructed and arranged such that the hood is transparent only on the part that will be worn opposite the eyes, mouth and nose.

Claim 7 (canceled).

8. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the filter assembly is heat sealed onto the bag.

9. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the filter assembly is a multilayered filter assembly containing at least one filter layer containing an antiseptic effective against microorganisms and at least one filter layer containing active charcoal.

10. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 9, wherein the filter assembly comprises an activated charcoal filter layer sandwiched between two filter layers containing an antiseptic that destroys microorganisms.

11. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 9, wherein the antiseptic material is selected from the group consisting of clorhexidine salt and cetylpyridinium chloride.

12. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, which is constructed and arranged such that the filter is in the area of the nose and mouth of someone wearing the mask.

13. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 9, wherein the antiseptic filter layers are constructed and arranged to filter out particles greater than 2 microns.

Claim 14 (canceled).

15. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the exhalation valve is embedded in the filter assembly.

16. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, which is constructed and arranged such that the exhalation valve is in the area opposite the lips of someone wearing the

mask.

Claims 17-18 (canceled).

19. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the separate sealing band comprises two elastic bands.

20. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the band is of a size and strength to achieve a good seal and still avoid choking the wearer when placing the band around a neck.

Claims 21-22 (canceled).

23. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, that can be turned inside out forming a bag after removal from the head, so that the contaminated outside surface will now face inwards.

Claims 24-26 (canceled).

27. (currently amended) A two-part escape mask assembly that may be supplied in a single pack, and that enables a user to breathe filtered air in the presence of contaminated air containing smoke, unidentified particles, chemical and/or biological agents or combinations of these, the two-part assembly consisting essentially of:

A. a first part which is a mask in the form of a hood flat-foldable to pocket size that when unfolded can cover the entire head, consisting essentially of:

1. a single bag made of transparent plastic film material impermeable to gases,

2. a connection means in a wall of the bag, constructed and arranged for connection to a filter cannister or to a source of fresh air,

3. an exhalation valve in the wall of the bag forming part of the mask, and

B. a second part which is a separate circumferential elastic sealing and adjusting band, not connected to the bag, to adjust and seal the hood around the neck, such that the

exhalation valve is opposite nose and mouth of a user, and air space within the hood is reduced to a minimum, the second part constituting the sole means for securing the first part to the user,

the single bag and the at least one separate circumferential elastic sealing and adjusting means defining within the single bag a single minimum air space between the user and the bag wall.

28. (previously presented) A method of enabling one to breathe filtered air in the presence of contaminated air containing smoke, unidentified particles, chemical or biological agents or combination of these, comprising:

a) providing a foldable hood escape mask with separate circumferential elastic sealing band as in claim 1,

b) unfolding the hood and placing it over the head and neck,

c) stretching the separate elastic sealing band over the hood and pulling it over the head around the neck, and

d) adjusting and sealing the hood around the neck by manipulating the hood and elastic band so that the exhalation valve is opposite the lips and mouth and the air space within the hood is reduced to a minimum.

29. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the exhalation valve is disposed in the filter assembly.

30. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the mask is flat-foldable to a thickness in a range of 1-2 cm.

31. (previously presented) A mask assembly as in claim 1, wherein the mask as folded has dimensions of 10-12.5 cm x 9-11 cm x 1-2 cm.

32. (currently amended) In combination,

a two-part escape mask assembly that can be supplied in a

single pouch, and that enables a user to breathe filtered air in the presence of contaminated air containing smoke, unidentified particles, chemical and/or biological agents or combinations of these, the two-part assembly consisting essentially of:

A. a first part which is a mask in the form of a hood flat-foldable to pocket size that when unfolded can cover the entire head, said mask consisting essentially of:

1. a single bag made of transparent plastic film material impermeable to gases,

2. a filter assembly capable of filtering contaminated air or particles disposed in a wall of the bag, and,

3. an exhalation valve disposed in the wall of the bag,

B. a second part which is at least one separate circumferential elastic sealing and adjusting band, not connected to the bag, to adjust and seal the hood around the neck, such that the exhalation valve is opposite nose and mouth of a user, and air space within the hood is reduced to a minimum, the second part constituting the sole means for securing the first part to the user,

the single bag and the at least one separate circumferential elastic sealing and adjusting means defining within the single bag a single minimum air space between the user and the bag wall, and

a pouch, wherein the mask is flat-folded and sealed in the pouch with the at least one elastic sealing and adjusting means.

33. (previously presented) The combination as in claim 32, wherein the mask and the at least one elastic sealing and adjusting band are sealed in the pouch under vacuum.